

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Dennis Blanchard, K1YPP, CINCC" <blanchard@nac.ENET.dec.com>  
Subject: [2100] 8044ABM is at "End-of-Life" status.  
Message-ID: <9608051541.AA04959@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

Yes Chuck, you are correct. The Curtis 8044ABM is at end of life and when existing stock is depleted there will be no more. Since we carry this chip at Jade Products as part of our stock it will impact our present product line.

We have ordered sufficient stock to have the chip on hand for those that will need it as a replacement item, and should have it for some time to come.

Mr. Curtis says that the technology is just too expensive to produce, it does use a rather old CMOS process and would require re-design to use the present day processes.

In any case we will have the Curtis Keyer Kit that we carry and replacement stock for the foreseeable future.

To my knowledge, Mouser is out of them at this point and Curtis has none.

Dennis, K1YPP

Engineer  
Jade Products, Inc.

E-mail: [djade@hampstead.k12.nh.us](mailto:djade@hampstead.k12.nh.us)  
WWW: <http://www.hampstead.k12.nh.us/~djade/index.html>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: ori@HEA.COM (Ori Mizrahi-Shalom)  
Subject: [2128] Another CW practice in San Jose area  
Message-ID: <9608052340.AA07751@timber.heava.com>

For those who live in the San Jose area:

I'm starting this week another practice session, on Tue 7:30-8 PM, on the 147.855 repeater. I'd be working on improving general skills rather than directly on the test format: common words (at high speed) and simulated QRN/QRM.

Even if you are at 5 WPM, try this one. It may give you one more \*fun\* way of improving and enjoying the hobby.

And for the more experienced - tell a friend.

I'd like to also remind people that Don AC6TG is running a CW practice on 145.450 every Wed 7:30-8 PM, concentrating on the 5 and 13 WPM tests.

Both repeaters have a good coverage throughout the San Jose/San

Francisco areas.

CUL

ORI AC6AN

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Michael Crestohl <mc@shore.net>  
Subject: [2088] Anyone have e-mail addresses for G3RJV and/or G3VTT???  
Message-ID: <199608051029.GAA02714@northshore.shore.net>

I would like to contact either or both G3RJV, George Dobbs and G3VTT Colin.  
I am told they are active here. Thanks for any help.

73,

Michael Crestohl, KH6KD/W1  
mc@shore.net

Cambridge Vermont

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Bob Hightower <ki7mn@dancris.com>  
Subject: [2127] ARCI Sprint  
Message-ID: <199608052309.QAA07949@dancris.com>

Did I miss something, or was there not an ARCI sprint Sunday? Listened  
around and heard not a soul (a few folks in qso).

73,

Bob KI7MN NorCal 1221 ARCI 8918 Qrp-1 271 CQC 274 ARRL (Not in any  
order of importance!)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@enterprise.net>  
Subject: [2107] Books  
Message-ID: <199608051817.SAA07738@mail.enterprise.net>

Thanks to all who sent me their choice of books for the beginner and

others, for my web page. I have put your comments on there, too, as I think it is worth while to read who said what. Also the index page has been redesigned, as suggested by one reader.

Thanks.

--

Frank G3YCC

Ham Radio QRP Web Page:

<http://homepages.enterprise.net/g3ycc/>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996

From: "Michael A. Gipe" <71756.3631@CompuServe.COM>

Subject: [2109] Change of identity

Message-ID: <199608051349\_MC1-82E-45C@compuserve.com>

It is now official.

I am no longer AG1H.

I have received my former call, K1MG, back.

I wonder how many times I will use the old (old/new-old) callsign by mistake before I have the new (new -old/new) one permanently burned into my semi-volatile memory.

Mike AG--oops--..... K1MG

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996

From: John Lockhart <jlockj@minn.net>

Subject: [2138] Chirp and Power Supply...

Message-ID: <01BB8318.8C542880@dialup-210.Minn.Net>

Just a quick note....was fooling around with my QRP++ and found that the small amount of TX chirp on 10 meters DISAPPEARED when I took the radio off an Astron RS-20A power supply and put it on a spare Yaesu 20A power supply....the Astron does a great job for a 450 MHZ rig that's on it, but something must be wrong with it's regulation.

Hope this helps someone out there, wish I had checked it earlier!

73, John WA0VQR

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996

From: John Mckee <jmckee@rfmd.com>  
Subject: [2090] Cleaning PVC  
Message-ID: <199608051216.IAA40913@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Gang,

I have used a small amount of acetone on an old rag and a LIGHT touch to remove the lettering. It works well as long as you don't get too heavy handed with the acetone.

73

John WB40FT

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>  
Subject: [2101] Final word - lifetime of a radio  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9608051019.A20762-01000000@w3eax.umd.edu>

A radio is finally dead when you've given up on fixing it eons ago AND it doesn't even get a look when it's on the "free" pile at the hamfest.

When the radio doesn't get a response like, "hey, there are some good components in there," it has truly died.

\* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 \*  
\*\*\* 6m 75 grids worked on 8 watts \*\*\* HF 138 cfmd \* QRP-L #147 \*\*\*  
\*\* QRP ARCI #9054 \*\* DXCC/WAS/WAC \*\*\* 100% dipole powered HF/6m \*\*  
\* 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w \*\*\* 145.490- 147.225+ PL 156.7 \*

On Mon, 5 Aug 1996, Kevin Muenzler wrote:

> I was once told by my Elmer that a rig's life ends when you can't  
> fix it when it breaks.  
>  
> Kevin, WB5RUE  
>  
>  
>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)  
Subject: [2094] For Sale -- OHR Explorer II (30M)

Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960805145813.22972658@eloi>

This is the 30M version, and was expertly constructed by yours truly. (Ron, KU7Y, has seen the rig and can attest to the workmanship.) In addition to all of the standard features of the Explorer II (superhet receiver, variable width IF filter, etc.), this rig has the following custom features:

- Rear panel fuse (I also added an MOV "spike" protector).
- Built-in keyer (Curtis IC with "anti-burp" circuit [\*]) -- keyer calibrated from 10 WPM to 40 WPM (rear panel control).
- Hand selected VFO components for low temperature drift and precise dial tracking (warm-up drift less than 200Hz, dial calibrated to within  $\pm$ 1 300Hz from 10.100 MHz to 10.145 MHz).
- SWR bridge -- LED Forward Pwr/Reflected Pwr indicators.
- "Tune" switch on rear panel (used to key output for tune-up, etc.).

[\*] Keeps the rig from being keyed at power-up.

Power output is adjustable from about 200mW to 2W (@ 13.2V). Currently set for 1W out.

\$130.00, including shipping in the US (will need a little extra for shipment outside the US). Firm. All documentation (manual, original articles describing mods, etc.) included.

In order to make this fair for those receiving list digests, I'll make a random selection from all responses received (assuming there are any :-)) over the next two days.

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Warren E. Lewis" <saswel@unx.sas.com>  
Subject: [2129] FS: TEN TEC ARGO 509  
Message-ID: <199608052355.AA23460@cardamom.unx.sas.com>

I have the following rig for sale:

Ten Tec Argo 509 80 - 10 SSB and CW QRP rig,  
with hand mic, Curtis Keyer, and External



I installed an audio level on the back panel.

Stay tuned for further developments, same Bat Channel,  
same Bat Time!....  
73, Randy WJ4P

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Tony Fishpool <101573.3220@CompuServe.COM>  
Subject: [2104] ICM7212AMIPL  
Message-ID: <960805163942\_101573.3220\_IHK52-1@CompuServe.COM>

Gang,

Thanks to all who took the trouble to respond to my enquiry  
about the ICM7212AMIPL chip. I have what I need now.

I know it's been said before but this reflector is the best thing  
since sliced bread! (Brit colloquialism).

Kind Regards  
Tony - G4WIF

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: thom.lacosta@fido261.qis.net (Thom LaCosta)  
Subject: [2085] IRC Channel  
Message-ID: <dce\_9608050055@fido261.qis.net>

Hello All!

I just setup an IRC channel for QRP stuff  
If you want to use it...  
irc  
the server name is irc.gigo.com  
/join #qrp

Let me know if it helps

Thom LaCosta  
K3HRN  
thom@fido261.qis.net  
Our Business is Business  
--

|Fidonet: Thom LaCosta 1:261/1352

|Internet: thom.lacosta@fido261.qis.net

|Standard disclaimer: Take a Naugha to Lunch today YOU pay the bill!

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996

From: ukii@megsinet.net (ukii)

Subject: [2124] Is it me???

Message-ID: <01BB82E8.D33C7980@dia1126.megsinet.net>

Hello gang!

Well, we had a 1010 ssb contest this past weekend, I worked it with 1.8 watts and actually suprised myself by getting 52 qso's. I worked TX,VA,SC,NJ,NY,MA, and a few others. Also got a DX contact! VA3!! hihi. This was my first real attemp at "qrp'ing" and was alot of fun! I also went on 20mtrs and worked WA and OR and quite a few more including CA. Thats my farthest at 1.8 watts I think..

Please, your thoughts...

Why is it that when I call cq /qrp there isnt much coming back, BUT during a contest, these guys wanna climb all over me! I beleive its because on a given day, not too many operators wanna listen to a weak sig, but during a contest they want that point! I have always reduced power during a contest because I KNOW they can hear me. I figure, if they want MY point, they will have to work for it! Have I stubled on a secret to getting alot of qso's? or maybe this is how all of you have been doing it all along..

Anyway, I had a great deal of fun! Only wish my rig would have been able to go into the milliwatts!

Take care es Best 73 de john N9UKX  
chgo,il.

I dont want this message to cause any "riff" in the group.  
Just my observations..

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996

From: wager@juno.com (James W. Cates)

Subject: [2110] Kantronics "RockHound" (want)

Message-ID: <19960805.105648.4294.10.wager@juno.com>

At the Livermore swap ystdy, John Andrews, N5INZ, graciously sold me his Kantronics 8040B receiver, the mate to the equally elusive "RockHound" transmitter.

In fact, I have never seen one, nor had I ever seen the receiver before yesterday. I thank John for passing this gem into my obscenely



expanding accumulation of low power stuff, and hope I will not be considered greedy now that I want the transmitter, too. OK gang, I know there is a RockHound out there somewhere. Let's go find one for Jim. Hup, one, two, three.

If I don't get one, I will not only pout, but suck my thumb, and ask Jerry to put a picture on the NorCal Web Page. Now, you wouldn't want that, would you? Of course not! :) :) :)

Hey, didn't Kantronics later come out with a VFO for the RockHound? jim

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: David Adams <dave@flowserver.stem.com>  
Subject: [2086] KC2 in process  
Message-ID: <9608050533.AA15292@flowserver.stem.com>

So...how many of you have finished and installed your new KC2 kits?

Pretty slick job I have to admit. My 4 year old only let me get half of the thing thrown together, but I will bring my explorer into the shop in the morning and get the case cut (I'm thinking of mounting it on the top for ease of sight in the park). I'll throw the rest of the thing in tomorrow night and see how she purrs...

I actually bought it for the explorer thinking it was just a kc1 with display but with all the neat extras (s and watt meters fer instance), I may have to get another for the Cascade!

Thanks to Wayne and the Norcal crew for a neat little kit.

73 de dave, n9uxu

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Tony Fishpool <101573.3220@CompuServe.COM>  
Subject: [2092] May I tap the collective consciousness  
Message-ID: <960805124618\_101573.3220\_IHK96-1@CompuServe.COM>

Hi folks,

I have been given a large box of components (lucky me!) and while trawling through the contents I found a fair few IC's marked ICM7212AMIPL. Looking in the various

catalogues I found chips with a similar designation that were all to do with Digital Frequency Measurement. So possibly these are too. Does anyone have a info or data sheet they can whoosh over to me, either by e-mail or fax?

Thanks in advance.  
Tony - G4WIF  
101573.3220@compuserve.com  
or fax  
+44 171 739 7867

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Phil, AC6LS" <ac6ls@amsat.org>  
Subject: [2084] MODS ?? for HW-7  
Message-ID: <320576D4.78CE@amsat.org>

Friend of mine just picked up a HW-7. He is interested in the mods that have been done.

Does anyone know of these mods and where they can be located?

tnks, 73 de Phil

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: John Moyle <john@moyle.demon.co.uk>  
Subject: [2111] Noise Cancelling Headphones  
Message-ID: <x9dRxBAoujByEwNI@moyle.demon.co.uk>

Many thanks to Ken Freedman, Bob Hirsch AA3ON, Bruce Hopkins KL7JAF for information on noise cancelling headphones.

Have contacted the various manufacturers suggested I found that most of them make suitable headphones for use in industry which are exactly the same as the aviation models but much cheaper because they are not advertised for aviation use! Strange how the words "aviation" or, for that matter, "medical" double the price of anything.

I have settled upon a PELTOR HTM7A

Once again, many thanks  
Dr John Moyle MB, BS, CEng, MInstMC, DPallMed, FRCA  
Consultant Anaesthetist, Chartered Engineer

35, Midland Road, Olney, Buckinghamshire, MK46 4BL, UK  
Tel 01234 241698 Cellphone 0836 244584 <john@moyle.demon.co.uk>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: John Moyle <john@moyle.demon.co.uk>  
Subject: [2112] Oak Hills Sprint 80m  
Message-ID: <vN8WtFAvxjByEwsg@moyle.demon.co.uk>

Hi!

I have just acquired an Oak Hills Sprint 80m.  
Are there any modifications, or problems with this delightful little  
Tcvt?

Many thanks in anticipation

Dr John Moyle MB, BS, CEng, MInstMC, DPallMed, FRCA  
Consultant Anaesthetist, Chartered Engineer  
35, Midland Road, Olney, Buckinghamshire, MK46 4BL, UK  
Tel 01234 241698 Cellphone 0836 244584 <john@moyle.demon.co.uk>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: rflight@VNET.IBM.COM  
Subject: [2114] Old Radios never die  
Message-ID: <199608051906.PAA35235@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Oh please forgive me for this... I just can't seem to restrain myself, but  
this thread begs for the paraphrasing of a quote I once heard as a Caddie.

"Old radios never die... they just loose their bulbs!"

It would seem relevant that only the QRP bulbs survive.

72 de N3G0 Gary in Raleigh, NC

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: tdrumm@sparc.isl.net (Tony Drumm)  
Subject: [2131] QRP at Boy Scout Camp  
Message-ID: <199608060055.TAA11787@sparc.isl.net>

I spent last week at camp with my son's Boy Scout troop. It was their  
week-long summer camp and we went to Tomahawk Reservation in Wisconsin. I  
decided to take along some radio gear and maybe spark some interest. Had my

two Explorers, Cascade, and 49er plus an MFJ portable tuner and a homemade G5RV which I fed with twin lead.

Each patrol has its own campsite and the adults were all in one so I didn't really have boys around the station much when I was operating. I put the antenna up by hoisting the center to about 25 feet and extending the wires in an inverted V. I screwed an eye hook into an old golf ball to serve as projectile. After two tries, I managed to get someone else to throw the thing up into the tree. This is why I don't play baseball... The other adults who weren't there at the time were all wondering how I got it up there. I don't think I ever did tell them.

My son is in his first year and was very busy so I tagged along with his patrol most of the time and didn't really get as much operating time as I wanted. There were a couple other adults who expressed at least some interest in what I was doing. I took my computer-mouse-keyer and was a little nervous that I wouldn't be very good sending with it, but I kept the speed down and was pleased by how well I was adapting to it.

The Cascade just doesn't have much punch on 20m but I made a couple 75m contacts. I checked into one of the Minnesota nets, hoping to pass a message to my wife. I've never checked into a traffic net before and have some learning to do. If that worked, I was going to try asking the boys for messages to send home. But, alas, there was no one on the net who could handle traffic to Rochester. So no joy! I didn't realize I wouldn't even get the message into the state so I was disappointed and never tried again. (I almost missed dinner in order to check in so the cost of trying was too high!) Next time, I may try to arrange for someone here to check in to take the traffic. It was nice to get a good report on the Cascade on 75, though.

I tried the 49er but I couldn't seem to tune the antenna for it and it was self-oscillating. First time that's happened and it was a bit of a surprise.

The most operating I did was in evenings so the 30m Explorer II was used most often. Got my first Wyoming contact (one of two states I haven't contacted from home, DE being the other). Too bad the camp is too far for me to count it for WAS. Got very good reports from stations in the west. They tended to be amazed what my 2W was doing. I wish I could figure out how to put up that much wire here at home. It was nice working with a decent antenna!

All told, I did a fair amount of listening and had only 8 QSOs. But, I contacted 7 states and had a couple of lengthy and interesting QSOs. Being at camp gives you some interesting things to discuss. I sent out QSLs today with SASEs. I hope to get back some to give to the troop to put with their pictures and such. If anyone has done anything similar to spark interest in scouts, let me know what worked. It was fun for me in any case!

72.

Tony Drumm  
Rochester, MN  
internet: tdrumm@isl.net  
Packet: aa0sm@wd0gnk.#semn.mn.usa.na

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: WJ4PRandy@aol.com  
Subject: [2120] QRP in the Canadian Rockies  
Message-ID: <960805155207\_592844871@emout12.mail.aol.com>

Hi Gang,  
During the week of July 22nd I was located in Jasper, Alberta. The weather was perfect and the scenery was breathtaking. I hauled along the OHR400 and a HB tuner and the W3EDP antenna that Bob described.

Our "cabin" had some very handy pine trees and other brands (poplar?) so getting the antenna up was gonna be easy... but after a few tosses with the rock coming loose from the string just about every time, I decided to augment my knot tying with a little athletic tape. That works well and will be part of every antenna kit I ever produce. The thing is, when rock is really rounded it slips right out of the string without the tape.

And, I also learned that a rock wrapped in tape doesn't make as much noise ("bong!") after it hits the natural gas tank located immediately adjacent to the trees I was trying to use. This can be especially important if your trying very hard NOT to attract attention to your activities...

All in all a fun time resulting in an appreciation for how the folks up there in the higher latitudes have to deal with some funny propagation paths.

Results:

7, 30mtr qso's and 2, 40mtr qso's.  
I worked: AD7LK, K0RDW, KG7KR, KC7CKP, KJ7KY,  
AC6KD, N6MM, K7SZL, KA0FVB

73, Randy WJ4P

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)  
Subject: [2097] QRP+ 12M Spectrum Measurements?  
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960805154713.2297dbb6@eloi>

On 8/1, I sent the following request to both QRP-L and GQRP-L:

>  
>I have been trying for more than a year now to get information from ANYONE  
>who has made 12M spectrum measurements on an "original" (unmodified) Index  
>QRP+! Does ANYONE out there in cyberspace have data that they would be  
>willing to share with me?? I am particularly interested in the relative  
>strengths of the "close in" 12M spurs to compare with my measurement results.  
>

I have so far received ONE response -- from Wolf, DK4RW, a member of GQRP-L.  
Has NO ONE ELSE ever looked at the 12M output of a QRP+ on a spectrum  
analyzer?? I find that hard to believe...

I sure would appreciate a couple more "data points" from someone out there  
in QRP land!

72, Larry.

PS -- Thanks again for your input, Wolf!

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: RHILT0@acxiom.com  
Subject: [2113] Re[2]: TenTec Visit  
Message-ID: <2063fd80@acxiom.com>

>I was down in the area back in May and managed some time to stop in.  
>I somehow neglected to tell my wife that we were going to a radio  
>factory. 73  
>James Bennett KA5DVS/2

What keeps Ten-Tec afloat? surely they don't exist on ham gear  
alone...

Bob ki5ez

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Mike Cloud <cloudm@mhsgate.meth-mem.org>  
Subject: [2121] slinging yer wire into the trees  
Message-ID: <540E063201172C16@mhsgate.meth-mem.org>

>

> From: WJ4PRandy@aol.com

>

but after a few tosses with the  
>rock coming loose from the string just about every time, I decided to  
>augment my knot tying with  
>a little athletic tape. That works well and will be part of every  
>antenna kit I ever produce.  
In my qrp trials es journeys, having used everything from a sling-shot to a  
friend's hunting bow, the BEST thing I have found to use for a weight is an old  
chrome  
trailer ball. Yep, thats right! Tie your biodegradable cotton twine to that  
sucker, give it 2/3 rapid wrist rotations and let her fly. It will rip thru  
those leaves es limbs  
dragging the string behind it. Be careful as this thing is heavy es whose design  
was probably borrowed from a medieval weapon of war. de Mike KR4IT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Bob Marsh <bmarsh@hicom.net>  
Subject: [2126] SW-40 Kit  
Message-ID: <3206B3F2.3B0B@hicom.net>

Hi Everyone,

Thanks again for all the info everyone sent on both the portable receivers  
and the Small Wonder kits. I just mailed out an order for the SW-40 kit  
today, and I'm waiting by the mailbox already (nyuk, nyuk!). Obviously, I  
decided to go the transciever route instead of a seperate receiver.

I just put together the "michigan Mighty Mite" transmitter for 80 meters  
(colorburst freq). It's at (<http://www.YBI.COM/brink/QRP>). I got it to  
work but it's not doing too well. I wound the tank coil as described with  
the 6 turn secondary/antenna coil over the top of the 45 turn primary. The  
secondary is located right at the beginning of the primary below the tap at  
15 turns (at the bottom). So far, I've cooked three transistors and 2  
resistors (for me, below average), mostly because of wiring errors. This  
little sucker will work (I had it on the air and worked a local station), but  
it's really unstable and the power output is way below the expected 350 -  
450ma.

Has anyone else built one of these, and if so what was your experience with it? It's so simple, I'd like to make a couple more (for 40 and 30). This is also the first real homebrew project I've tried, so I'm kind of excited about it.

Take Care es 73 de Bob/KB2SGM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Dave <kd3pc@nr.v.net>  
Subject: [2103] TenTec Visit  
Message-ID: <199608051641.MAA09864@kirk.nr.v.net>

Ladies and Gentlemen

Last week on the way back from Gatlinburg, I stopped at the TenTec plant and spent a wonderful hour there. I had planned to get a sw rig for my son, who is 6.5 and ended up buying the two meter rig and amp as well. The sw rig is a breeze, but the 2mtr rig looks like it will take a few hours....but whopefully I will learn something inthe process.

I talked to them about the QRP rig and a beta unit has been done and trialed, scheduled for late this year and they are still looking to keep it under \$125. More than likely optioned for single band 20 thru 40, as they indicated the bands above and below are tougher to design for. I asked if they would take orders yet.....No, not yet. And would they be interested in a Buy or special case or some such for the QRP-L, .... Not a problem, they will keep their ears to the list and keep us posted thru Chuck or direct as things progress.

Any way if you get down thru their area, the stop is definitely worth a few minutes. Be prepared though for an informal visit, no fancy show rooms or demo areas (ala the Computer folks, ask Chuck about SGI's rooms) but as much time and info as you caould want, plus an understanding of how they do business. They do have few proto units as well as some older production rigs stacked on shelf to look at. They did indicate that they were redoing the "sales" area soon.

Regards,

Dave

Dave Dabay, KD3PC                      Race At The New ELK CREEK DRAGWAY  
Technology Specialist, Radford City Schools                      540-731-5011



From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Jeffrey Greer <KF4GKH@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>  
Subject: [2108] Test bench  
Message-ID: <19960805173233.AAA12558@LOCALNAME>

I am interested in equipping a modest test bench. My interest is primarily with QRP HF homebrew/kit built rigs. I prefer new equipment. In the past, I worked with HP and Tektronix while working for a large corporation. At home, I used kitbuilt Heath equipment.

I would like suggestions for a scope, signal generator, spectrum analyzer, etc. that would be sufficient for personal use and not break the bank. Alas, Heath is no longer in business.

Thanks, Jeff WD4ETO

PS. I upgraded to Extra at the Jacksonville, FL Hamfest this weekend. Hi!

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>  
Subject: [2130] Thanks -Austin Summerfest, long  
Message-ID: <n1372848567.34020@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday was the annual ham convention, Austin Summerfest. (It is always the first weekend of Aug.) Fri. nite we had seven turn up for QRP dinner at Lone Star Cafe, several showing off newly built Forty-9'ers. The hostess said, "Is that a bomb?", when all the Altoids tins were opened to reveal parts and wires. The Gary Sehne rig is unique that it has a push button key in the lid that allows the whole box to be pumped as a key, by inverting it!

Many thanks to all who came, and for the nice comments received on the presenters. From this list, Chuck, K5FO, gave the Intro to QRP talk, along with some history on TMPS. And while he was doing that, Ed ,N5EM, started construction on a Forty-9'er transceiver, with the whole construction process being televised over Color Monitors to the audience, and projected on one side of the large screen, while Chuck's slides projected on the other side. Bruce Williams, WA6IVC, (MXM Industries), followed Chuck and showed his transceiver, and the Emergiceiver. The Emergiceiver is a Superhet, and while the Forty-9'er can be classed as a fun radio to show what a minimum parts count could do, or provide a platform to modify to improve its circuits; the Emergiceiver is intended to provide the advantage of a single signal superhet rig that could be your backpacking lifeline to civilization, or useful from

home in a hurricane zone. Bruce traced some history for us how the span of the Spark Age, and the Tube Age, were both much shorter than the Transistor age, and now we are in the IC Age. Marconi's spark was a crude transmission in its day, and it was not until recently that a "legally narrow" spark transmission was demonstrated. As it turned out, we had in the audience, the man who did that- Kent Brittain. It is interesting to realize that the transistor has been around 50 YEARS.

While all this was going on, Ed was busily stuffing parts and soldering. To make it possible to finish within the hour and a half allotted to the session, (and before the convention grand prize drawing), Ed had carefully planned his assembly steps. Components were arranged in order of instructions, on a strip of masking tape, and labeled on another strip of tape over the first, and held together until the part was needed.

Ed's Commodore color monitors and his home brew Camera stand that was a u shaped wood frame on legs over the work area really gave the audience a good view, for I watched mostly from the back row while handing out prize tickets. (That way, we got a good count on our attendance, and raffled away the NorCal rig Ed constructed.) For that rig, I wish to thank Jim Cates who supplied a consignment of kits for us to sell at the convention, (and several did go home with happy hams.)

Edsel Murphy came to the show as well, and although we intended to capture the whole assembly on video tape; a brand new VCR from the Convention Audio/Video folks gave up its ghost, part way into the show.

The time slipped away all too quickly, and it was approaching the Grand Prize draw hour. Ed was inserting the last component, as I realized we had to have our drawing a bit before the demonstration QSO. We started off with some consolation prizes: a pocket screwdriver, a fresh tin of Altoids Mints, (What else!), and suddenly Chuck was handing me a copy of Paul, NA5N's, new QRP book, with the useful Yellow Pages by Rich. We gave that away as well, as Chuck had brought a few of the books to sell. Thanks Chuck!

Finally, Bruce Williams, WA6IVC drew the last ticket, and we announced that Tom O'Brien of Seabrook, TX, was the winner of the NorCal rig. With the help of Austin QRP'ers and list members Gary Sehne, and Tony Lyon, and Smitty Smith of Nor Tex, a demonstration QSO to another Forty 9'er was held, and the Ed-built rig sprang to life, with one of the famous little red keys Ed brought from Dayton. [This is the key Bruce, W6TOY, was talking about in his QRP Quarterly column after Dayton.] Ed had prewired connectors, and even a mini box for the prize rig, but the box drilling was left to the winner to customize to his desires. Thanks for the hard work.

Good job Ed! Thanks for thinking of that construction demonstration as a key part of the QRP forum. And Ed did a good job of pausing from time to time to show the board over the camera, as if he does these all the time on his local

TV station! [Some of you may know Ed is active in amateur TV in Houston as well as QRP].

The Chuck Adams slides are an excellent basis for a QRP program alone, but he has a useful handout with them, that is a two sided page of the clubs, QRP info, and a comparison of S units of a 100 watt rig to various QRP signal levels under the same conditions. The handy graph on this handout was provided originally by Herb Hoover, W6ZH, and we thank him for that. We gave away all those handouts. The forum had perhaps five QRP'ers other than the presenters, and included other notables such as Tex Kennedy, head of the Six Meter organization from San Antonio. Thus, a lot of QRP evangelizing was accomplished, among mostly the QRO, and I wish to again thank Chuck, Ed, and Bruce for their efforts.

It was nice of Brian, N5ZGT of this list to come from New Mexico, and meet us; and thanks for his praises of the convention. Brian, we should have had a DX prize for you.

Always great to see Smitty, and Tony, and we had an all too short visit, as it was with Chuck. Gary, thanks for picking Chuck up and getting him back to the plane. Ed and I got a little visit in Fri. and at the VHF meeting Sun.

The panoramic photos of the Austin Field Day QRP SSB station three 330 foot Vee beams were the Poster session. A panoramic photo does help to show 1980 feet of horizontal wires!

Sunday, the VHF Society voted to join the Austin Clubs in holding the convention thru 1999, so put down Aug. 1-3, 1997 for the next Summerfest. (That is the first weekend of August.) Now whether the convention is a success depends partly on the attendance, and we were off 200 folks from our usual that is between 1800 to 2000. Yet, the QRP Forum drew over 51 folks, and that is, I think, 10 more than attended the QRP session at Ham Com, an 8000 convention. We had to put out extra chairs, and that was a success to me. All the ham conventions have been down, Dayton, Ham Com, etc. The ARRL representative, Jay Maby, even commented, that nationally ham conventions have not been drawing as well, and other volunteer organizations have a down-turn. Let us hope the Internet is not the cause, and support your ham conventions in your areas--QRP'ers build, and it takes conventions to have good swap meets to find our STUFF.

The floor is now open to suggested topics, speakers, and things to do next Summerfest. And who will volunteer to line up a program for next year? I will collect your ideas.

As to supporting Conventions; Ed, will Houston have a ham convention this Fall? Please let us know so all can plan to help or attend who can.

72, Stuart

K5KVH  
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@enterprise.net>  
Subject: [2106] Tools  
Message-ID: <199608051817.SAA07743@mail.enterprise.net>

OK, so we have a nice selection of books for the beginner to look through.  
Now how about your ideas on what tools, gadgets etc the newcomer to home  
construction may need? Again your comments will be listed on the web  
site.

Thanks for taking time to read this, please give it some thought to assist  
those new to the hobby.

--  
Frank G3YCC  
Ham Radio QRP Web Page:  
<http://homepages.enterprise.net/g3ycc/>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Douglas L. Datwyler" <datwyler@mail.aros.net>  
Subject: [2115] What is a VLBA?  
Message-ID: <320646A1.62BA@mail.aros.net>

What is a VLBA, as noted for possible NORCAL kitting?

Doug WR70  
datwyler@aros.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>  
Subject: [2118] WIMU96 Report  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.960805121700.19490C-1000000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

A grand time had by all!

Big thanks to all those who helped.

Bob, KI0G  
Larry, W1HUE  
Bob, WA7FCU

The above brought some of the nicest rigs I have ever seen! 2 40-9ers brought lots of comments!

KI0G and W1HUE did most of the talking at the QRP fourm. Thanks guys, as usual, others made my job easy!

The drawings were won by the following:

Oak Hills Explorer II 40m won by AA7AA. (I don't have his name handy)  
QRP-ARCI Membership won by KC7JXF, Scott  
NorCal Membership won by K9MWM, Bob  
MI QRP Club Membership won by KJ7YF, Crag  
QRP Operation Companion, (book), won by N7SMX, Carolyn

Bob, WA7FCU, said he counted 50 people at the QRP fourm. I think most of them wound up stopping by the QRP ARCI table and drooling over all the nice radios on display!

I also wound up with the DX fourm. I was worried about that until Wayne Mills, N7NG, (also P40V), came by Friday night! With very little begging and crying he said he would help!

At the DX fourm Sat AM, there was Wayne talking to Walt Stinson, W0CP, the ARRL vice dir for the Rocky Mt div and another "big" DXer. He also agreed to help and then along came Steve Mendelsohn, WA2DHF, the ARRL First VP! Another "Sure, I'll help"!

These three did a great job. First they found out what the people were there for! That changed what they had planned. This was a group of "new commers" to DXing, not a whole room full of old salts that sometimes show up at DX fourms. All three did a fine job of giving information that was of help to all! No talking over anyones head. Answered many questions and we could have gone on for hours.

But the clock on the wall cut us short! The drawing was won by someone you might just know.....Larry East, W1HUE, won the MFJ World Clock!

Dwane Anderson, KJ7HO, and his wonderful wife, DeAnne, (whos call I can't remember and I don't see it anyplace here!), did a bang-up job of putting the whole show togeather.

On top of that, Dwane and DeAnne, (boy, I hope I'm spelling these names right!), were kind enough to come to the Airport in Salt Lake City to pick me up Friday afternoon and return me back there Sunday after the event.

Many thanks to all!

For those who can make it next year, start planning. It's a good bunch of people. (It should be in Boseman, MT, next year)

cul,

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada....  
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>  
Subject: [2135] Re: ARCI Sprint  
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960806002225.009af36c@public.compuserve.nf.ca>

Hi Bob and QRP-L Gang,

Yea we need to remind eac other here about qrp contests. I just picked up a MFJ-9420 SSB rig this past weekend and had a ball knocking off about a dozen dx contacts (are your realllly running only 10 watts etc etc).

I read about the SSB sprint on the airplane this morning - dratttt

Gang - give a hand if you know a contest is coming up so we don't forget - Cam can't catch them all for us. I think there is a Colorado QRP Club one coming up soon...

Cheers 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 16:09 8/5/96 -0700, you wrote:

>Did I miss something, or was there not an ARCI sprint Sunday? Listened  
>around and heard not a soul (a few folks in qso).

>73,

>Bob KI7MN

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| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |  
| QRPPer Galore - QRP ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |  
| Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com |  
| Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com |  
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>  
Subject: [2132] Re: ARS' "TFR Challenge"  
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960806000705.008726d0@public.compuserve.nf.ca>

Hi Richard and qrp-l gang,

Got my nice multi-colour Adventure Radio Society membership certificate in the mail - really neat and a pleasure to be a member.

OK for initiation do I need to "figure" out what that "Asian" lettering is to become a "real" member???

Caio, cheers, and 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 08:13 8/1/96 -0700, you wrote:

>  
>  
>ANNOUNCING THE ARS' "TFR CHALLENGE"  
> Sparked in part by a knotty operating problem experienced by veteran  
>QRPer Mike Herr, WA6ARA, on a recent week-long human-powered canoe trip,  
>the Adventure Radio Society is issuing a design challenge in search of  
>the optimum "trail friendly radio," or TFR.

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| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPer Galore - QRP ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com |
| Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com |
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Bill Howell <bhowell@mail.utexas.edu>  
Subject: [2098] Re: cleaning up PVC  
Message-ID: <199608051548.KAA06687@mail.utexas.edu>

On Thu, 1 Aug 1996, David Adams wrote:

> Greetings! As our antenna work has, I'm sure, made us all experts  
> in dealing with pvc, I have a question...PVC from the hardware store  
> is ugly...but ugly...all that red and blue writing...those bizarre

> brown stains...what do you guys use to clean it up?  
>snip<

David- I use laquer thinner (not paint thinner) to remove the inked-on lettering. Pour some on a paper towel and rub off the lettering. Of course, this removes the "shine" from the surface, which is ok for me because I usually paint my PVC masts anyway.

Home Depot (I think that's where I got it) has some "camouflage" spray paint which is used by hunters, etc to hide their blinds. It's a brown color which approximates tree-bark color. This way my masts blend in a bit better with their surroundings than they would if I left them stark white.

Bill Howell  
University of Texas at Austin  
Performing Arts Center  
Electronic Maintenance  
voice: (512) 471-1388  
bhowell@mail.utexas.edu

N5ALO QRP-L #415

everything is sacred  
nothing is serious

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>  
Subject: [2095] Re: For Sale -- OHR Explorer II (30M)  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.960805080444.18112D-100000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

On Mon, 5 Aug 1996, Larry V East wrote:

> This is the 30M version, and was expertly constructed by yours truly. (Ron,  
> KU7Y, has seen the rig and can attest to the workmanship.)

Hey gang,

This really is a well built radio. The panels look like ther were done in a print shop! All the wireing is cut to just the right size, solder



joints done neatly and etc.

Ask anyone who was a WIMU last weekend. It is a nice unit!

Glad I didn't bring my NC40a.....I would have been laughed at!

Get it quick,

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada....  
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "ZenkerPN" <ZenkerPN@perkin-elmer.com>  
Subject: [2087] Re: GQRP - Virus Scare  
Message-ID: <9607058392.AA839249927@ccip.perkin-elmer.com>

Hi gang,

be aware, there are some new types of viruses spread via files. I got some of them via our company net included MS-Winword files. Only the newest versions of virus checkers make it possible to find them. This MS-Word viruses are very dangerous, because they become active if you read the file!

72 de Peter, DL2FI

----- Antwort-Abtrennung -----  
Betreff: GQRP - Virus Scare  
Autor: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@enterprise.net> bei INTERNET  
Datum: 25.07.96 16:45

So far as I am aware, viruses are spread via programmes, not files. There is therefore a very real danger of acquiring a computer virus from the Internet, providing you do download programmes, not just mail and news items. However, if I am wrong, please let us all know, you experts, but it would be a foolish person who had no current, and I stress current virus checker. I have had two viruses, neither real nasty ones, but...

--

Frank G3YCC

Ham Radio QRP Web Page:

<http://homepages.enterprise.net/g3ycc/>

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Via GQRP-L - The G-QRP Club mailing list

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996

From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com

Subject: [2091] Re: Help with PADS software

Message-ID: <960805082247.20644589@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Gang,

The other day I asked for assistance with loading the Printed circuit shareware evaluation software PADS. I had successfully gotten it from an FTP site and unzipped it, but when I tried to load it I kept getting a "file not found" error. This sounded strangely familiar, but I'd forgotten why.

Brad, WB8YGG of Atomic Keyer fame graciously helped me out. Seems he had experienced the same thing before and found the answer. To wit: When you unzip the files from the FTP site, use the -d switch with PKUNZIP! This restores the subdirectory structure in the unzipped files. I feel so \*dumb\*!

Next time maybe I'll remember. Thanks to Brad for the answer!

BTW, he tells me that he and his partner have ordered parts for \*more\* AK-1's. Guess they're getting popular.

OK, now I can get back to my Altoids projects.

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996

From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>

Subject: [2134] Re: Is it me???

Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960806002223.0099fba8@public.compuser.tn.ca>

John,

Calling CQ/QRP on ten meters any time EXCEPT the 1010 contest will typically go unanswered. Why heck even with my SB-220 on (Ohhh no I didn't say that....) it's hard to raise a soul when ten is dead (or everyone thinks

it's dead as 1010 contests disproves - hi)

Have fun 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB (truly qrp except on 11 meter SSB good buddy.... :^)

At 14:08 8/5/96 -0500, you wrote:

>Hello gang!

> Please,your thoughts...

>Why is it that when I call cq /qrp there isnt much coming back,BUT

>during a contest,these guys wanna climb all over me!

> Take care es Best 73 de john N9UKX

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| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPer Galore - QRP ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com |
| Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com |
|-----
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996

From: "Alan Slusher" <slusher@caribnet.net>

Subject: [2137] Re: Is it me???

Message-ID: <m0unbX8-000FT9C@prop>

Why is it that when I call cq /qrp there isnt much coming back,BUT

> during a contest,these guys wanna climb all over me! I beleive

> its because on a given day,not too many operators wanna

> listen to a weak sig,but during a contest they want that point!

> I have always reduced power during a contest because I KNOW they can

> hear me.I figure,if they want MY point,they will have to work for it!

> Have I stubled on a secret to getting alot of qso's? or maybe this

> is how all of you have been doing it all along..

> Anyway,I had a great deal of fun! Only wish my rig

> would have been able to go into the milliwatts!

>

Good going! I'm just curious (new into QRP myself). You post suggests that the rig you used is capable of higher than QRP output. I have in the shack Kenwood 430s and 140s, along with Heathkit HW-8 and a Ramsey 20m receiver/transmitter combo. However, I notice that the Kenwood receivers are much more sensitive than the others. Would like to transceive QRP using the Kenwoods. Any info on how to crank down the cw output dependably

on either of these? Do you use Kenwood? My problem, of course, is that, operating from Barbados, the active QRP group (US or UK) is all DX (the southern tip of Florida, the nearest part of the US mainland, is 1600 miles away...). Not that this is a major problem, since I have been able, using the HW-8 and a ladderline fed 135 ft dipole up 20 ft at the center of the inverted V to get into Europe (OZ2UN, DL20CE, IK4XQF) and even into Ohio (W8CMO) on 20m during the last month or so. But, you know, every little bit helps (I know, I know; if I made the time to put up the Mosley TA33 jr warc that has been lying on the shack floor new in the box for the last 18 months, things would be sure to improve, and I would not now be wasting bandwidth).

I guess my problem involves reasonably accurate measurement of power output. I have a Kenwood AT-250 auto tuner with 20-watt and 200-watt measurement scales, and an MFJ-815 SWR WATTMETER (dual needle) with similar 20-watt and 200-watt scales. Both instruments give virtually identical readings throughout the one to five-watt range when I crank down the Kenwoods to that level using the CAR(rier) control (430s) and the PWR slider (140s) in cw mode. (I establish the lowest SWR settings with the auto tuner using full transceiver output, and then turn the power controls down.) Can you say whether this is a reasonably dependable indication, or should I (sigh) invest in an OHR instrument? In both cases the ALC indicator ceases to read, although the output as indicated on the two meters mentioned earlier remain stable.

Grateful for comments.

Alan, 8P9BM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: George Dorner <gdorner@kiwi.pyrotechnics.com>  
Subject: [2123] Re: LAB TEST: Radio Telescope  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.94.960805153824.7147B-100000@localhost>

Let's get a group buy together for VLA receivers.

geo

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)  
Subject: [2116] RE: No More Curtis Chips  
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960805191142.2297b64c@eloi>

>From a recent posting from good 'ol "dit dit":  
>  
>Supposedly Danny of Dan's Small Parts called Mouser (the only  
>source for the Curtis chip) and was told there were no more.  
>  
>If this is true, be kind to your keyer and don't zap it.  
>  
>Looks like you'll have to go with the CMOS III from now on.  
>  
>Again we need verification of this news. After all there are  
>a lot of keyers and rigs out there with the chip in them.  
>Let the group know. This is just what I heard today. I'll  
>be outta pocket to check on this.  
>  
There is, however, an "intelligent alternative" to the Curtis IC: the keyer  
IC(s) made by Radio Adventures Corp. Check out their WEB page:  
<http://radioadv.com/>

Much better than the Curtis chip in my opinion -- fewer external parts  
required, less expensive, and it don't "burp" when power is turned on!

There is also another alternative -- something called the "Atomic Keyer". I  
seem to have misplaced my info on it at the moment... oh well, someone will  
surely post it.

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>  
Subject: [2116] RE: No More Curtis Chips  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.960805121534.19490B-100000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

Larry and All,

Watch for a article in the Quarterly for a keyer you  
can build.....complete with the source code for those  
that can program their own chips....

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada.....  
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: svecbrdk@well.com (L.Svec, W.Burdick)  
Subject: [2136] Re: No More Curtis Chips? No shortage of KC1 partial kits  
(around \$24)  
Message-ID: <199608060140.SAA05724@mh1.well.com>

I lament the passing of the 8044 series as much as anyone--probably bought ten of them over the years.

However, for those who are new to QRP-L: The KC1 chip from Wilderness Radio has the same number of pins as the 8044 :) and is only a few dollars more (\$24), but its keyer function gives you:

- 50+ characters of nonvolatile message memory with multiple partitions and a RW (repeat word) macro
- two Iambic emulations (Curtis mode A and Super CMOS mode B)
- built-in sidetone
- adjustable QSK and keying weight
- speed reported directly in WPM
- simple keyer-paddle entry of all commands
- an extra user-definable logic output and handkey input
- only 2mA current drain at 3 to 6 volts

Also, if your miniature QRP rig also happens to need a \*Frequency counter\*, you get that with the KC1 chip, too:

- a Morse-output (3-digit audio report) frequency counter that goes up to 50MHz
- four programmable VFO offsets
- receiver MUTE output to eliminate digital RFI

The KC1 partial kit comes with the IC, all of the transistors you'll need, plus the 4.000MHz crystal. Of course the KC1 is also available as a complete kit for \$45. There's more info at:

<http://www.fix.net/jparker/wild.html> or

<http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/QRP-L/>

73,  
Wayne  
N6KR

AntiDisclaimer:

Yes, I \*do\* have a connection to Wilderness Radio :) All their kits start off as club projects that I designed for NorCal. I appreciate all feedback and new kit ideas!

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>  
Subject: [2133] Re: QEX article: June '96: Swept RX DR Testing  
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960806000650.0085ac1c@public.compuserve.com>

Dan & QRP-L Gang,

I have to second and third Dan's suggestion to go beg/steal/borrow a copy of the Receiver Testing article in the July 96 issue of the ARRL Experimenter's Exchange magazine QEX - Ed Hare's article brings back memories of the great technical articles of the Ham Radio magazine bygone days.

If you are interested in the results of the testing of the QRP rig round-up in the June issue of QST, then this article will give you something to think about.

Thanks Dan for your alert announcement of this timely topic.

Cheers 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 20:19 8/2/96 -0400, you wrote:  
>The QEX article I mentioned in an earlier mail message today is  
>actually in the June 1996 QEX (which I just got in the mail). It is  
>entitled "Swept Receiver Dynamic Range Testing in the ARRL  
>Laboratory", and is by Ed Hare, KA1CV, of the ARRL Lab staff.  
>I will repeat my praise for this clear article.  
>  
>Dan, KB1RT

Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer Galore - QRP ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com
Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: k5zty@hamgate2.w5-f6cnb.ampr.org  
Subject: [2139] re: QRP contest  
Message-ID: <11369@sugarland.ampr.org>

Bob Gobrick said we should keep each other informed about the upcoming contests. I agree that seeing them posted here would be great and maybe increase the number of participants.

Well this posting is to confirm that there is going to be a Colorado QRP Club contest on Sunday afternoon August 25, from 18:00z til 23:59z. The original announcement was posted by Marshall, AA0XI, to this list on June 8, and included the rules. It is SSB and CW and your name is part of the report and a multiplier. It is a neat contest and you gte to put names with the calls. Put it on your calander and get on the air.

for sample log and name sheet send a SASE to; Jim Pope,KG0PP,CQC;  
PO Box 31575; Aurora, CO 80041-0575  
72,  
Bill, K5ZTY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Phil, AC6LS" <ac6ls@amsat.org>  
Subject: [2083] re: radio lifetime?  
Message-ID: <3205764D.2CC7@amsat.org>

> It seems that the capacitors wear out first in both solid state and tube

I have found this to also be a factor in the electronics of the Honeywell Vertical Gyros that I have worked on at work (comercial aircraft) Most likely cause of failure was an electrolitic.

I also belive that relay's would rank up there as a potential fail item.

73 de Phil

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>  
Subject: [2122] Re: Re[2]: TenTec Visit  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9608051406.B21459-01000000@w3eax.umd.edu>



Ten-Tec makes some commercial-type HF stuff as well as military radios. A big part of their existence is custom enclosures and tool and die with some injection molded plastics thrown in.

\* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 \*  
\*\*\* 6m 75 grids worked on 8 watts \*\*\* HF 138 cfmd \* QRP-L #147 \*\*\*  
\*\* QRP ARCI #9054 \*\* DXCC/WAS/WAC \*\*\* 100% dipole powered HF/6m \*\*  
\* 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w \*\*\* 145.490- 147.225+ PL 156.7 \*

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: James Bennett <james@research.nj.nec.com>  
Subject: [2105] Re: TenTec Visit  
Message-ID: <199608051657.MAA19171@shakti.nj.nec.com>

Dave,  
You didn't mention if you took the factory tour. I was down in the area back in May and managed some time to stop in. I somehow neglected to tell my wife that we were going to a radio factory. Anyway, I also highly recommend the visit to anyone who is passing through. They are about 30 minutes from Knoxville, and just a short detour off I40. I spent a couple of hours touring the factory and they even let me take pictures. Got to see the Omni VIs and Scouts being put together. Definitely a don't miss opportunity if you are in East Tenn.

73  
James Bennett KA5DVS/2

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Jim Kortge, K8IQY (ex NU8N)" <jokortge@tir.com>  
Subject: [2125] Re: Test bench  
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19960805214918.2ebf3b90@tir.com>

At 01:32 PM 8/5/96 -0400, you wrote:

>I would like suggestions for a scope, signal generator, spectrum analyzer,  
>etc. that would be sufficient for personal use and not break the bank. Alas,  
>Heath is no longer in business.  
>

Jeff...I just bought a dc to 20MHz signal/sweep generator from Telullex out in Mountainview CA for \$795. It is a very fine instrument and can't be touched by anything I've see to date, including Tek and HP. They have a web page at [www.telullex.com](http://www.telullex.com) if you would

like to check out the SG-100 specs. Nice folks to deal with also!!

I'd be interested in the responses you get regarding the spectrum analyzer, because I am looking for one of those also.

>

>PS. I upgraded to Extra at the Jacksonville, FL Hamfest this weekend. Hi!

>

Congrats...nice to have that isn't it!! :-)

72...Jim

Jim Kortge, K8IQY (ex NU8N)		BMHA, NorCal, QRP-L
jokortge@tir.com		__o Cascade 17/40 SSB
Fenton, MI		_`\<, Mizuho 17/40 SSB
...	..	.. . . . . (*)/(*) . . . . .

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996

From: bob.roach@sourcebbs.com (BOB ROACH)

Subject: [2102] Re: What is the lifetime

Message-ID: <8C5D2D5.000103EF2C.uuout@sourcebbs.com>

>-that is 20, 40, even 60 years old! You NEVER see solid state stuff that  
>-old.

Duhhhhhhhh!

\* SLMR 2.1a \* Do not look in laser with remaining eye.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996

From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@Oakland.edu>

Subject: [2089] Re: What is the lifetime of a radio ?

Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960805063939.13777C-100000@vela.acs.oakland.edu>

On Sun, 4 Aug 1996, Jaykumar wrote:

> Is there a 'useful lifetime' for a solid-state xcvr ?  
> How does it compare with the ones that use tubes ?  
> Jay kb3bgv

OH Boy... THIS is gonna be GREAT!

Everyone knows that tube equipment lasts longer than transistor gear.

For example, next time you go to a swap, you'll see LOTS of tube gear that is 20, 40, even 60 years old! You NEVER see solid state stuff that old.

I'll be very interested in other's responses to this soon-to-be classic QRP-L thread! Thanks Jay!

73 =paul= wb8zjl  
Collector of Ten\*Tecs and other fine plastics

ObQRP : Man, what a GREAT time was had by all at the Eastern MI Swap and multi-club picnic/QRP bash yesterday. I hope Floyd KF8AT will pipe in with comments, I don't want to steal his thunder (he's a club president). At the swap was a decent TT 509 for \$375 (dream on), C-21 for \$200 (close but high for its condition), and an analog Argosy at \$400 (ballpark).

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: "Bill C." <wrc@tir.com>  
Subject: [2093] Re: What is the lifetime of a radio ?  
Message-ID: <3206340E.7751@tir.com>

Hmmm...

>>Everyone knows that tube equipment lasts longer than transistor gear.

Tube life for equipment in regular service averages about 5 years. The equipment itself might last 60 years or more with tender loving care. Some tubes will last longer... some will fail sooner. Tubes fail because they cook themselves to death!!

In 1972 we were given 20 years as the average life of a transistor.. and at that time transistors had been on the scene for only 20 years. Nobody knew how long they'd actually last. I have some that are about 30 years old and still going strong. I wonder if the age of the oldest transistor might have some bearing on your statement about not finding any 60 year old transistor rigs? <grin>.

Tubes or transistors can be convinced to fail early by abuse. Transistors are more prone to failure by the shortest over voltage or overcurrent while tubes are more prone to failure from mechanical vibrations (two

examples).

Each has it's own advantages and either is fun to use. If you have boxes and crates full of tubes then build and use tube equipment. If you have boxes and crates full of solid state parts... use those. Looking at used gear. Buy and enjoy either. I've used combinations like a Ten-Tec 509 for receive with a Johnson Ranger for transmit and I once listened with a Hammarlund HQ145 while transmitting with a homebrew solid state transmitter (mix "n match).

Don't be afraid of either. Buy and use whatever appeals to you. Just be aware of the differences and give the equipment due care. Enjoy.

Bill KU8H

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: cooper@gmpvt.com (Tom Cooper)  
Subject: [2096] Re: What is the lifetime of a radio ?  
Message-ID: <199608051552.LAA07133@web.gmpvt.com>

Bill, KU8H wrote:

>Don't be afraid of either. Buy and use whatever appeals to you. Just be  
>aware of the differences and give the equipment due care. Enjoy.  
>

The memory of touching the plate cap on the 807 in a homebrew rig 25 years ago is still quite fresh in my mind. If you have gotten a little sloppy on your safety procedures while working on 12V only solid-state stuff, like I have, be EXTRA careful around any tube-type gear. When mine needs maintenance, a friend does it for me. One shocking experience is enough for me.

73

Tom WA1GUV

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Mon Aug 5 23:13:21 1996  
From: Kevin Muenzler <muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu>  
Subject: [2099] RE: What is the lifetime of a radio ?  
Message-ID: <01BB82BB.E2E3DD60@muenzlerk.uthscsa.edu>

I was once told by my Elmer that a rig's life ends when you can't fix it when it breaks.

Kevin, WB5RUE